***Reuse, Recycle, Reinvent: Public Mosaics***

Taylor Hughes

**LESSON TITLE:** Reuse, Recycle, Reinvent –Public Mosaics

**LESSON SUMMARY:** Through collaborative efforts, students will be inspired by the work of Isaiah Zagar to create a community-themed mosaicked bench to be displayed in the school.

**BIG IDEA:**

Enhancing local community

**ENDURING UNDERSTANDINGS:**

Enhancing local community in this lesson refers to the idea of improving a public place with large or small-scale public art. For decades, artists have been examining areas throughout the world that need physical improvement, and are using art to do so - murals, mosaics, gardens, etc.  By providing students with information about an art form they may not be aware of, they will be able to move forward with insight and positive ideas for their own artwork throughout the community.

**ESSENTIAL QUESTIONS:**

1. What is community?
2. Why is community important?
3. How is community examined in artmaking?
4. How can art enhance a community?
5. What are the benefits of adding art to a public space?

**MATERIALS/EQUIPMENT**

* Bench – recycled
* Recycled ceramic materials
	+ Broken plates, dishes, bathroom tiles, etc.
* Thin-set mortar or tile adhesive (depending on whether the bench will be displayed outside or inside)
* Sanded tile grout
* Tile clippers
* Popsicle Sticks
* Buckets
* Trowel
* Plastic cups
* Tarp
* Safety gloves
* Safety goggles and dust masks
* Backer Board
* Power drill and screws
* Wood glue
* Utility knife
* Pencils
* Sharpies
* Large sponges and dish towels

**STANDARDS**

* NJCCC Art:
	+ 1.3.12.D.2: Produce an original body of artwork in one or more art mediums that demonstrates mastery of visual literacy, methods, techniques, and cultural understanding.
		- The students will be collaborating to create a multimedia art piece (mosaic) that demonstrates the mastery of a new technique.
	+ 1.3.12.D.5: Identify the styles and artistic processes used in the creation of culturally and historically diverse two- and three-dimensional artworks, and emulate those styles by creating an original body of work.
		- The students will be examining the work of Isaiah Zagar and will be emulating his style to create a community mosaic.
	+ 1.4.12.A.2: Speculate on the artist’s intent, using discipline-specific arts terminology and citing embedded clues to substantiate the hypothesis.
		- The students will be participating in a discussion, examining Isaiah Zagar’s intentions with his *Magic Gardens* project, using appropriate terminology.
* NJCCC Science:
	+ 5.1.4.B: Inquiry and Problem Solving: Develop strategies and skills for information-gathering and problem-solving, using appropriate tools and technologies.
		- This applies to the lesson because students will be problem-solving as they work on the artmaking activity, and will need to use the appropriate tools in order to complete the task of making a mosaic.
* National Core Visual Arts Standards (NCCAS):
	+ VA:Cr2.2.HSIII
		- Anchor Standard: Organize and develop artistic ideas and work
		- Enduring Understanding: People create and interact with objects, places, and design that define, shape, enhance, and empower their lives.
		- Essential Questions: How do objects, places, and design shape lives and communities? How do artists and designers determine goals for designing or redesigning objects, places, or systems? How do artists and designers create works of art or design that effectively communicate?

 This standard applies to the lesson because students will be examining work of a contemporary artist and will be discussing how his work and theirs shapes their lives and their communities.

**OBJECTIVES:**

* Students will be able to examine the work of Isaiah Zagar and articulate how his work applies to theme of enhancing local community.
* Students will be able to draw upon their prior understanding of community to design a work of art that will enhance the community in which they live.
* Students will be able to exhibit an understanding of hybridity and multimedia artwork by creating a design that utilizes many different materials.
* The students will be able to collaborate to create a three-dimensional mosaic using recycled materials.

